

2/12/2003

*B2*  
*condit.* mentioned above; purifying it, and subjecting it to steps involving at least a reducing agent, an ionic detergent and/or a neutral detergent in conditions leading to a glycoprotein having said properties.

Please add the following as the brief description of the figure section on page 5, after line 20:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURE**

*B3*  
The figure represents the SDS PAGE analysis under reducing conditions obtained with a recombinantly produced gp160 that was purified and treated to make trimers (lanes 3-4) compared to gp160 dimers (lane 2), monomers (lane 5 and 6), and combination of dimmers, trimers, and tetramers (lane 7).

**In the claims:**

Please amend claims 11, 13 and 16-19 as follows:

11. (Amended) A composition comprising a purified trimer of HIV gp160, wherein the trimer:

- binds to CD4;
- binds to an anti-gp120 antibody capable of neutralizing HIV infection of cells *in vitro*;
- binds to an anti-gp41 antibody; and
- has no inter-chain disulfide bridges.

13. (Amended) A composition comprising a trimer of HIV gp160 wherein all or a portion of the gp160 transmembrane region is deleted, and wherein the trimer:

- binds to CD4;
- binds to an anti-gp120 antibody capable of neutralizing HIV infection of cells *in vitro*;
- binds to an anti-gp41 antibody; and
- has no inter-chain disulfide bridges.

16. (Amended) The composition of any one of claims 11 - 13 further comprising an adjuvant.

17. (Amended) The composition according to claim 16 wherein the trimer is the only HIV surface antigen in the composition.

18. (Amended) A method of producing the trimer according to any one of claims 11 - 12, the method comprising, in order:

- expressing gp160;
- purifying the gp160;
- contacting the gp160 with a reducing agent;